

ABSTRACT

The optical pickup includes a two-wavelength laser diode having two light sources that emit a laser beam for the DVD and a laser beam for the CD, a light-receiving member, and a beam splitter. The beam splitter is provided with a wavelength-separating layer composed of a first and a second interfaces and an optical thin plate between the interfaces, having a specific refractive index n_2 . The first and second interfaces each have a first and a second wavelength selecting films coated thereon, which reflect or permeate the laser beams each by the specific rates, bring the optical axes of the laser beams after having reflected on the first and second interfaces into coincidence, permit the laser beams to go out of the beam splitter, and make the return beams from the optical disks permeate through the wavelength-separating layer to guide them toward the light-receiving member.